



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Jeanne Alspaugh, Chair
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Robert Frost, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

ABSENT: James Duchene, Vice Chair

STAFF: Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager
Don Davis, Parks and Recreation Manager
Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Manager
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager
Brett Jackson, Maintenance Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alspaugh called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Alspaugh called for a moment of silence.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- **Regular Meeting of February 3, 2010.**

Commissioner Frost noted that the reference to Chair Frost, in the second paragraph of page three, should be changed to Commissioner Frost.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2010 REGULAR MEETING, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER SCHLEGELMILCH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE CHAIR DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

5. DOWNTOWN DISTRICT MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Brett Jackson, Maintenance Coordinator, will provide an update of the downtown district maintenance.

Mr. Jackson reported that the maintenance staff provides coverage in the downtown area seven days a week from 5 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eight maintenance workers are responsible for tasks such as picking up litter, maintaining flowers and shrubs, applying herbicides and pesticides, pruning trees, power washing the parking structures, and installing holiday lights.

Flowers are planted twice a year. There are 270 hanging flower baskets to water between November and April. Three certified applicators apply pre-emergent and post-emergent on over 220,000 square feet of granite planters. Twelve recycling cans have been added to the downtown area in an effort to divert as much litter as possible from the landfills. This year staff pruned 315 palm trees and 419 other trees. Over 199 tons of granite was used to freshen up planters. Much of the work was done overnight to avoid interference with businesses. The City's five downtown parking structures are power washed twice a year via contractor, while the maintenance staff washes the sidewalks. Staff provides support for events in the SouthBridge area, and regularly collaborates with the Downtown Group, Code Enforcement, the Police Department, and Field Services.

Rosarian volunteers at the public rose garden pruned 250 rose bushes this winter and planted an additional 45 new donated ones. They presented a public demonstration on rose care. In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Frost, Commissioner Koczka explained that in order to become an official Rosarian, a person must take a course, contribute a certain number of hours, and pass a test.

Commissioner Faramelli suggested the creation of a community facility district to allow property owners to offset some of the \$2 million it costs to maintain the downtown. Commissioner Frost inquired whether overnight work on the granite planters is considered overtime. Mr. Jackson said the work schedules are simply shifted to an earlier time.

Chair Alspaugh inquired whether any additional recycling containers would be placed downtown. Mr. Jackson responded that merchants, residents and visitors have requested additional cans, and several would likely be added to locations that attract many pedestrians.

6. CIVIC CENTER MALL UPDATE

Don Davis will provide an update of the civic center mall maintenance.

Mr. Davis reported that the Civic Center Mall hosted over 130 outdoor events that attracted 157,930 people. Eight full-time maintenance workers oversee the entire Mall, and provide coverage seven days a week. The large number of events this year caused irreparable damage to the turf, and 10,000 square feet had to be replaced. Irrigation crew pitched in, which helped save the City \$3,900 in contract costs. Funds for the new sod were recovered from the Cultural Council. Staff has been involved in facility enhancement projects at the Justice Center and the Urban Design Studio. Over 100 rose bushes were pruned this winter on the Mall, and the summer flowers will be planted in April. The Commissioners commended Staff for their efforts.

Commissioner Koczka proposed that the downtown ambassadors conduct an informal survey of visitors to solicit improvement suggestions. A broader sense of the area's needs would be useful during the budget allocation process. Ms. Cameron agreed that a survey could be done with little difficulty. Chair Alspaugh inquired whether any attempt is made to gather comments at special events. Ms. Cameron explained that a set of standard questions is asked at every event. Chair Alspaugh said the sustainable garden is an impressive addition. Ms. Cameron noted the Culinary Festival plans to use the garden's produce in some of their menu items this year.

7. JANUARY STORM IMPACT/CLEAN UP

Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager, will provide storm update.

Mr. Pryor reported that the storm that hit Scottsdale during the week of January 20 produced over three inches of rain. He displayed photos of some rain-related incidents throughout the city. Seven Parks staff participated in the City's Emergency Response Program, helping Police to dispatch workers whenever road closures were required. Virtually every department is represented on the team. They do a lot of work responding to situations as they arise, and often work through the night.

Before the storm arrived, street drains were cleaned so they could accommodate water as efficiently as possible. Items that could come loose in the rising water were secured. Staff did about 1,000 hours of clean up work after the storm on top of their regular duties. About 57 trees were lost. Twenty-five tons of sand had to be replaced at Eldorado Park. Several nights of league play were lost, since the ball fields were saturated. The cost of the storm is still being tallied, and Tom Shannon will approach the State and Federal governments with a relief request.

Commissioner Frost noted that in the early 1970s, Scottsdale convinced the Army Corps of Engineers that a grass-lined solution to Indian Bend Wash flooding would be better than a concrete lined solution. Scottsdale is reaping those benefits today, and the project has won national awards. Commissioner Koczka said drainage was functioning well during the storm, and the fields were playable in a matter of days. Chair Alspaugh added that the community is very grateful for the work that the emergency team does.

8. AQUATICS TASK FORCE UPDATE

Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager, will provide Aquatic Task Force update.

Ms. Erickson noted that several aquatics groups asked to be considered as sponsored groups. The Aquatics Task Force was formed to establish priority use, and was modeled after the Youth Sports Task Force. Staff identified the existing uses of the facilities and solicited information from groups to find out what their needs are. User groups were also informed of the budget efficiencies the City made during the past year. The current sponsorship policy was reviewed and minor changes were drafted. The Commission will have a chance to review those changes soon. The group also created a draft aquatic allocation policy. This effort has highlighted the need for aquatics advocacy. The next meeting will be on Monday, February 22 and will focus on the utilization of aquatic facilities, both hourly and seasonally.

9. COMMISSIONER REPORT

The commissioners will give updates on events and activities they have attended since the last commission meeting.

Commissioner Koczka said he attended a recent City Council meeting where they discussed the proposed bond initiative. He noted that Commissioner Frost appealed to them to continue with projects that were part of the last bond issue, even in a modified state. It was a good first step, but much work remains to be done. Commissioner Frost reminded the Commission that the request was to add a Phase Two for Grayhawk Park, a Phase Two for Troon North Park, and Phase One of DC Ranch Community Park. The Council decided that the bond package was too big and took no action. They will likely cut the size down.

Commissioner Frost noted that the General Plan Update working group has not met since the last Commission meeting. Commissioner Schlegelmilch said the quality of the field lighting at the Scottsdale Soccer Complex makes it a very comfortable place to play at night. Chair Alspaugh offered the Commission's assistance in advocating the inclusion of the additional projects for the bond initiative.

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, will update the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions. This includes, but is not limited to, updates on programming, special events, calendars, and upcoming meetings.

Ms. Cameron reported that Mayor Lane delivers the State of the City address on February 18. Next week is Western Wear Wednesday in support of the Parada del Sol. The San Francisco Giants will open their home spring training schedule on March 4 at Scottsdale Stadium. A new monument at the Stadium will inform fans of the daily schedule. The Waste Management Phoenix Open begins next week. Scottsdale employees and

board and commission members are allowed daily admission with their ID badges. February 27 is the Family Fishing Expo at Chaparral Lake. March 6 is the annual Exclusively Little event at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

Meets established criteria,
Janice M. Cameron
Director, Parks and Recreation